

[Advisory Opinion 1995-1]

TO: [Name1 withheld]
Chief of Police

FROM: Barbara McNally
Executive Secretary, Ethics Commission

SUBJECT: Donation of Computer Equipment

DATE: March 16, 1995

The Ethics Commission has received and reviewed your request for approval to accept a donation from St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Wheaton, MD. You have provided the following information to the Commission:

The Church has recently upgraded their system and would like to donate:

- 1 Brother HR-125 Printer (valued at \$200)
- 1 IBM Personal Computer with Monitor and Keyboard (valued at \$250)

You have indicated that there was no solicitation of the Church to make this donation and that they are donating this equipment freely and with no expectations. In addition, they have designated that the donation is being made to the Special Operations Division of the Police Department.

In considering your request, the Commission reviewed Section 19A-16(e) removing unsolicited gifts to a County agency from the prohibitions of Section 19A(c) which concerns accepting gifts under certain circumstances. Therefore, the Police Department is free to accept the donation.

Thank you for bringing this matter to the attention of the Ethics Commission and please don't hesitate to contact our office if you have any questions concerning this or any other matter.

BMM: bmcn